Message Text

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E. O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PLOS, YOU

SUBJ: YUGOSLAV IMPRESSIONS OF RECENT LOS SESSION

REF: (A) STATE 070173, (B) STATE 131424, (C) STATE 134431

- 1. EMBOFF CALLED ON FSFA INTL ORGN COUNSELOR STARCEVIC JUNE 7 TO DELIVER AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON'S PRESS STATEMENT OF MAY 22 (REF B), REQUEST GOY EVALUATION OF PAST SESSION, AND INQUIRE INTO PLANNED COMPOSITION OF GOY DELEGATION TO AUGUST SESSION (REF C).
- 2. STARCEVIC NOTED THAT THE CONFRENCE HAD LOST MUCH TIME DUE TO THE DISPUTE OVER THE PRESIDENCY BUT FELT THAT NEVER-THELESS PROGRESS IN REACHING AN AGREEMENT HAD BEEN MADE, EVEN IF THE COMPROMISES REACHED WERE NOT ALWAYS TO YUGOSLAVIA'S TASTE. THIS PROGRESS HE THOUGHT UNEVEN, WITH THE MOST SUBSTANTIAL NARROWING OF DISAGREEMENT OCCURING IN THE THIRD COMMITTEE AND THE LEAST IN THE SECOND COMMITTEE. THE MOST LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONTENTIOUS ISSUE, HOWEVER, WAS THE EXPLOITATION OF THE DEEP SEA BED CONSIDERED IN THE FIRST COMMITTEE. THERE GOY WAS UNSATISFIED WITH DEVELOPMENTS. YUGOSLAVS WISH A STRONG AUTHORITY WHICH WOULD BE A SUPERVISING AND GOVERNING ORGANIZATION. STARCEVIC ASSERTED THAT DRAFT REVISIONS TO THE ICNT PROPOSED BY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN NJENGA WERE "TILTED" TOWARD THE DEVELOPED STATES AND A "STEP BACKWARD" FROM THE ICNT.

HE ADDED THAT HE DID NOT BELIEVE THEY WERE AS A WHOLE ACCEPTABLE AND ANY CONSENSUS REACHED WOULD REQUIRE A COMPROMISE BETWEEN NJENGA'S TEXT AND THE ICNT TEXT. STARCEVIC COMMENTED THAT THE BEST POSSIBLE SOLUTION WOULD BE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF JOINT VENTURES BY THE MINING CORPORATIONS WITH THE "AUTHORITY".

- 3. STARCEVIC OBSERVED THAT THE DEVELOPING STATES WERE "FEELING PRESSURED" AND EMPHASIZED THAT A LOS AGREEMENT WAS FAR PREFERABLE TO ALL PARTIES THAN UNILATERAL DECISIONS, WITHOUT BASIS IN LAW, WHICH WOULD LEAD TO CONFLICTS, DISTRUST AND RESENTMENT, WORSENING THE INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE. THE ITEMS PRESENTLY IN DISPUTE, HE ADDED, CAN BE SETTLED BY NEGOTIATION AND, SINCE THE TECHNOLOGY FOR MINING THE SEA BED HAS YET TO BE PERFECTED, THERE IS NO NEED FOR INDIVIDUAL STATES TO TAKE PRECIPITATE ACTION.
- 4. STARCEVIC STATED THAT GOY TAKES THE LOS NEGOTIATIONS QUITE SERIOUSLY AND INTENDS TO SEND THE SAME DELEGATION TO THE AUGUST SESSION THAT PARTICIPATED IN THE LAST SESSION.
- 5. PRESS COVERAGE OF LOS CONFERENCE MARCH-MAY SESSION WAS MINIMAL WITH BRIEF ARTICLES IN MAJOR PAPERS AT BEGINNING AND END. REPORTS CONCENTRATED ON QUESTIONS OF DEEP-SEA BED MINING AND ACCESS TO LLGDS STATES TO EEZ OF COASTAL STATES. CONFERENCE WAS PORTRAYED AS STRUGGLE OF DEVELOPING STATES TO PRESERVE WEALTH OF SEA FOR ALL HUMANITY FROM EFFORTS BY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DEVELOPED STATES TO APPROPRIATE IT ALL TO THEMSELVES.

TONE, HOWEVER, WAS MODERATE. STRESS WAS LAID ON YUGOSLAV ACCORDANCE WITH VIEWS OF G-77 STATES.

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